

SENATE RESOLUTION No. ____

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A SENATE RESOLUTION urging the Legislative Council to create an interim study committee or to direct an appropriate existing committee to examine issues relating to criminal sentencing.

WATERMAN, ZAKAS

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on _____



SENATE RESOLUTION

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

A SENATE RESOLUTION urging the Legislative Council to create an interim study committee or to direct an appropriate existing committee to examine issues relating to criminal sentencing.

Whereas, the General Assembly has strengthened Indiana criminal laws to better protect the public;

Whereas, the population of jails and prisons has increased, at least in part, as a result of these stronger criminal laws;

Whereas, the General Assembly has established the Sentencing Policy Study Committee to review various aspects of sentencing including the impact on increasing prison populations; and

Whereas, the General Assembly is examining alternative sentences and policies, in part, in order to determine whether methods can be developed to decrease the costs of incarceration while maintaining safety priorities: Therefore,



*Be it resolved by the Senate of the
General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly recognizes the
2 importance of reviewing policies related to sentencing.

3 SECTION 2. That the Legislative Council is urged to direct the
4 Sentencing Policy Study Committee, or an existing committee, or
5 interim study committee to determine whether a program should be
6 developed to decrease prison costs by releasing prisoners in an
7 appropriate manner, such that they would not pose a threat to Hoosiers.
8 Such a program may include advancing age, infirmity, educational
9 improvement, or other meaningful factors which, taken together, could
10 serve as grounds for release, while maintaining public safety as a
11 priority.

12 SECTION 3. That the study committee, if directed to take such
13 action, shall operate under the direction of the Legislative Council and
14 shall issue a final report when directed to do so by the Council.

